

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 04768 310218Z

70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 /050 W

----- 129576

P 310059Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8063

UNCLAS MEXICO 4768

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, MX

SUBJECT: HIDALGO COUNTY LABOR UNREST: STATUS REPORT

FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM AMCONSUL MATAMOROS REPEATED FOR  
DEPT INFO:

1. NO REPEAT NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE IN PAST 24  
HOURS.

2. ONE LOCAL NEWSPAPER (LA OPINION DE MATAMOROS) CARRIES  
VARIOUS STORIES, LARGELY PLAGIARIZED FROM YESTERDAY'S SENSATIONAL  
DOUBLE-PAGE SPREAD IN PRENSA. THE HEADLINES CLAIM THAT  
SITUATION IN HIDALGO CO. IS EXPLOSIVE BUT THE STORY, CREDITED  
TO AP WIRESERVICE, SIMPLY DETAILS MINOR ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN  
UFW PICKETS, AND MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIVES ON VARIOUS OF THE  
FARMS AFFECTED BY THE UNREST. ONE PARAGRAPH QUOTES GOVERNOR  
OF TEXAS AS SAYING THAT THERE ARE NO PLANS TO SEND IN TEXAS  
RANGERS (VARIOUS MEDIA STORIES ALLUDE TO THE INTERVENTION  
DURING 1968 LABOR UNREST OF TEXAS RANGERS, GENERALLY CONCEDED  
TO HAVE BEEN A MISTAKEN OVER-REACTION.) RANGERS ARE A POPULAR  
AND CONSTANT BUG-A-BOO TARGET OF LOCAL RAZA UNIDA AND UFW  
PROPAGANDA.

ANOTHER STORY IN SAME PAPER FROM ITS SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
REVIEWS EVENTS OF PAST WEEK, SEVERELY CASTIGATING ACTIONS OF  
MILLER IN FIRING ON DEFENCELESS MEXICAN LABORERS. FINAL PARAGRAPH A  
ALLEGES THAT MILLER MUST HAVE FIRED IN ORDER TO PREVENT PUBLIC  
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PAGE 02 MEXICO 04768 310218Z

KNOWLEDGE OF FACT THAT HIS FIELD WORKERS ARE ALL ILLEGALS, THAT HE

PAYS BELOW/STANDARD WAGES, AND MAKES NO CONTRIBUTIONS FOR SOCIAL SECURITY, MEDICAL CARE , ETC., ALL OF WHICH ARE THE ALLEGED GOALS OF UFW IN THEIR ORGANIZING EFFORTS.

3. COMMENT: IT IS QUITE PROBABLE THAT MILLER'S WORKERS ARE INDEED ILLEGAL WETBACKS--BUT ODDLY, SO ARE MANY OF THE UFW ORGANIZERS, AND, IT NOW APPEARS, SO ARE ALL OF THE TEN PERSONS WHOM MILLER WOUNDED. SO THE QUARREL REALLY SEEMS TO BE BETWEEN SUBMISSIVE WETBACKS AND MILITANT WETBACKS, WITH AGITPROP SUPPLIED BY CESAR CHAVEZ-TRAINED UFW VETERANS. THERE IS ALSO LITTLE QUESTION BUT THAT THERE HAS IN PAST AND POSSIBLY AT PRESENT BEEN SUFFICIENT EXPLOITATION ON PART OF TEXAS LANDOWNERS TO SUPPLY UFW WITH MANY LEGITIMATE GROUNDS FOR COMPLAINT.

4. ACCORDING TO PRENSA QUOTING ORENDAIN, CESAR CHEVEZ WILL COME TO HIDALGO NEXT WEEK.  
JOVA

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, ELAB, MX, US  
**To:** STATE  
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